

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, including listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for regenerating genetically modified plants of pine of the genus *Pinus* selected from the group consisting of Southern yellow pines and hybrids thereof, which comprises selecting transgenic embryogenic pine cells using a selection medium comprising a selection agent and an agent that regulates differentiation of embryos from embryogenic cells, said agent is selected from the group consisting of abscisic acid (ABA), ~~an osmoticum~~ polythylene glycol (PEG), a gelling agent in an amount between about 3% and about 5% or between about 0.5% and about 1.5% and combinations thereof and regenerating genetically modified plants from said transgenic embryogenic pine cells.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said Southern yellow pines are selected from the group consisting of *Pinus taeda*, *Pinus elliotii*, and *Pinus caribaea* and related pines.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein transformed pine cells are cultured using a medium comprising said selection agent and said differentiation agent to select said transgenic embryogenic pine cells.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said differentiation agent is ABA.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said differentiation agent is polyethylene glycol (PEG).

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said differentiation agent is a gelling agent introduced into the selection medium in an amount between about 3% and about 5%.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein said gelling agent is gellan gum.

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said differentiation agent is a gelling agent introduced into the selection medium in an amount between about 0.5% and about 1.5%.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein said gelling agent is gellan gum.

Claims 12-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein said differentiation agent is ABA.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein said differentiation agent is polyethylene glycol (PEG).

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein said differentiation agent is a gelling agent introduced into the selection medium in an amount between about 3% and about 5%.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein said gelling agent is gellan gum.

Claim 18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein said differentiation agent is a gelling agent introduced into the selection medium in an amount between about 0.5% and about 1.5%.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 19, wherein said gelling agent is gellan gum.

Claim 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said selection is performed by
culturing pine cells which have been subjected to transformation using a transformation medium comprising said differentiation agent;
contacting said cells with a selection agent; and
selecting transformed cells.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 22, wherein said selection agent is contained in a gel medium.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein said selection agent is contained in a layer and said cells are cultured on a support membrane placed over said layer which is placed on a gel medium.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein said layer is a liquid medium.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said layer is a filter paper with a liquid medium absorbed therein.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said support membrane is prepared from a material selected from the group consisting of polyester, polypropylene and a liquid permeable fluoropolymer fabric.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The method of claim 22, wherein said transformed cells are cultured on a gel medium comprising said differentiation agent.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of claim 28, wherein said differentiation agent is ABA.

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said ABA is in said layer.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein said selection is performed by

culturing pine cells which have been subjected to transformation using a transformation medium comprising said differentiation agent;

contacting said cells with a selection agent; and

selecting transformed cells.

Claim 32 (original): The method of claim 31, wherein said selection agent is contained in a gel medium.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The method of claim 31, wherein said selection agent is contained in a layer and said cells are cultured on a support membrane placed over said layer which is placed on a gel medium.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein said layer is a liquid medium.

Claim 35 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said layer is a filter paper with a liquid medium absorbed therein.

Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said support membrane is prepared from a material selected from the group consisting of polyester, polypropylene and a liquid permeable fluoropolymer fabric.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of claim 31, wherein said transformed cells are cultured on a gel medium comprising said differentiation agent.

Claim 38 (original): The method of claim 37, wherein said agent is ABA.

Claim 39 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said ABA is in said layer.

Claim 40 (original): The method of claim 22, wherein said transformation is transformation by *Agrobacterium*.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 40 which further includes the eradication of *Agrobacterium* from pine cells subjected to *Agrobacterium* transformation following transformation.

Claim 42 (original): The method of claim 31, wherein said transformation is transformation by *Agrobacterium*.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of claim 42 which further includes the eradication of *Agrobacterium* from pine cells subjected to *Agrobacterium* transformation following transformation.

Claims 44-55 (canceled).